

**Amendments To The Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A Venetian blind comprising:  
a headrail;  
a bottom rail;  
a plurality of slats;  
a blind supporting system ~~suspendedly and spacedly~~  
suspended from the headrail and supporting said slats  
horizontally and spaced apart between said headrail and said bottom rail;

a lift cord having a first end ~~fixedly fastened~~  
fixed to said bottom rail and a second end extending upwardly through said slats into said headrail and then downwardly through a gate of a lift lock mounted in said headrail and terminating in an operation segment suspended below said headrail ~~at~~ for a distance; and

wherein a knot is formed by holding up a middle part of the suspended operation segment of said lift cord to form a base strand having a U-turn tip, and then detouring said U-turn tip and turning U-turn tip round said base strand through

at least one turn to form an eye, and then inserting said U-  
turn tip through said eye at least once and then stretching  
said U-turn tip tightly;

[[a]] wherein the knot constructed in said lift cord  
and having has a dimension greater than the a gate of said  
lift lock.

Claims 2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The Venetian blind as~~  
~~claimed in claim 2,~~ A Venetian blind comprising:

a headrail;

a bottom rail;

a plurality of slats;

a blind supporting system suspended from the  
headrail and supporting said slats horizontally and spaced  
apart between said headrail and said bottom rail;

a lift cord having a first end fixed to said bottom  
rail and a second end extending upwardly through said slats  
into said headrail and then downwardly through a gate of a  
lift lock mounted in said headrail and terminating in an  
operation segment suspended below said headrail for a  
distance; and

wherein said a knot is formed by folding up the a  
middle part of the suspended operation segment of said lift

cord to form a detoured base strand, and then respectively folding up a first side portion and a second side portion of said detoured base strand to form a respective U-turn tip, and then turning said detoured base strand over the U-turn tip of said first side portion to form an eye, and then turning the U-turn tip of said first side portion over the U-turn tip of said second side portion, and then turning the U-turn tip of the second side portion over the base strand and then inserting the U-turn tip of said second side portion through said eye and then stretching the U-turn tip of said second side portion tightly[[.]];

wherein the knot constructed in said lift cord has a dimension greater than a gate of said lift lock.

5. (Original) The Venetian blind as claimed in claim 1, wherein said blind supporting system comprises at least two ladder tapes.

6. (New) The Venetian blind as claimed in claim 4, wherein said blind supporting system comprises at least two ladder tapes.